

VZCZCXYZ0007
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHPE #0276 0311724
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 311724Z JAN 07
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3792
RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASH DC PRIORITY
RUEHC/DEPT OF LABOR WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
INFO RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 4319
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 7199
RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 2769
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 0123
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ JAN PANAMA 0810
RUEHQD/AMEMBASSY QUITO 0979
RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 1090
RHMFIUU/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC
RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC
RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHINGTON DC

UNCLAS LIMA 000276

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

STATE FOR E, EB, EB/TPP, WHA/AND
PASS TO USTR FOR VERONEAU, EISSENSTAT, HARMON
COMMERCE FOR MCAMERON
TREASURY FOR JEWELL, SHWARZMAN

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [ETRD](#) [ECON](#) [EAGR](#) [PGOV](#) [USTR](#) [PE](#)
SUBJECT: NEW GOP POINT MAN ON PTPA GOES TO WASHINGTON

REF: LIMA 0129

¶1. (SBU) SUMMARY: David Lemor, the GOP's de facto point man on the U.S.-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement (PTPA) told us January 19 that the GOP would now take a more internally coordinated and energetic approach in pushing for U.S. Congressional approval of the agreement. He travels to Washington February 1 to take up his new duties as the Trade Ministry's representative at the Peruvian Embassy, and told us he had President Garcia's support. He said he expected Hernando de Soto, President Garcia's "special envoy" named in August 2006, to now focus on the domestic implementation of the PTPA. The GOP has just retained veteran Washington attorney Thomas Boggs to help with the Congressional effort, and Lemor will also bring up additional support staff for the effort from Lima. Charge urged him to work closely with Washington agencies and to coordinate closely on key issues such as labor. END SUMMARY.

TRADE MINISTRY IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT

¶2. (SBU) Lemor (bio reported reftel) told Charge that while Peru's Ambassador to the U.S. Felipe Ortiz de Zevallos would be heading the mission, he himself would be coordinating the GOP's day to day campaign in Washington. He confirmed that lobbying firm Patton Boggs had been hired by the GOP at some considerable expense, and that veteran lobbyist Thomas Boggs would be personally involved. Lemor said he would be bringing three outside academics to assist him in Washington.

¶3. (SBU) Lemor said that Presidential envoy Hernando de Soto, who had openly complained about how frustrating the task of lobbying for the PTPA had been, would focus his efforts on domestic implementation of the PTPA. Lemor opined that de Soto had had some difficulty working effectively with the various ministries, especially the trade ministry. He also said that the locus of control on this current effort would be in the Trade Ministry.

¶4. (SBU) Lemor said that President Garcia told him he would

be willing to make a call to Washington if necessary. Lemor said he thought he could count on the pro-FTA ministers in the cabinet to support him with the President if necessary. That list includes Transport and Telecoms Minister Veronica Zavala, Production Minister Rafael Rey and Housing Minister Hernan Garrido-Lecca.

COMMENT

¶5. (SBU) Lemor's presence in Washington clearly puts the Trade Ministry in the driver's seat for the GOP's efforts on the PTPA. Lemor said he would likely spend at least six months in Washington, to be extended to a year. Charge urged Lemor to be in touch with the broad range of Washington agencies as he made his rounds in Washington, such as Treasury, Commerce and State, in addition to USTR. She also told Lemor that it was important to keep his eye on the kinds of political developments that could arise in Peru that would bring the PTPA negative publicity on the Hill.

POWERS